

A  
DECLARATION  
OF THE  
Lords and Commons  
NOW ASSEMBLED  
IN  
PARLIAMENT,

Concerning  
The miserable distractions and  
grievances this Kingdom now lieth  
in, by meanes of Jesuiticall and  
wicked Councillors now about  
His MAIESTIE.

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Ordered by the Lords and Commons, That this Declara-  
tion be forthwith Printed and published,

*Hen. Elsing, Cler. Parl. D. Com.*

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LONDON

Printed for *Edward Husband*, and *John*  
*Frank.* Iuly 13. 1642.

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Concerning

The misrule of the  
Government of the Kingdom  
in, by means of  
the

11:579

Of the Lord of the Commons  
in the House of Commons  
in the House of Commons

LONDON

Printed by W. and J. Smith, and W. and J. Smith





## The Declaration of the Lords and Commons now assembled in PARLIAMENT.



**I**T cannot be unknown to the world, how powerfull and active the wicked Counsellors about His Majesty have been, both before and since this Parliament, in seeking to destroy and extinguish the true Protestant Religion, the Libertie, and Laws of the Kingdom; and that after many traierous indeavours against the Parliament, by Gods providence discovered and frustrated; they drew His Majesty into the Northern parts, and in His Name did publish divers false scandals and ignominious reproaches against the Lords and Commons, making His Majesties Courte a sanctuary for all kinde of Delinquents against the Justice and priviledge of Parliament, and drawing to *Tork* by Letters, and other means, divers Members of both Houses, and setting up there a counterfeit imaginary usage of the great Councell of the Peers, in opposition to the Parliament, to the great danger, not only of the disturbance, but even of the subversion of the originall constitution and frame of this Kingdom.



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And that the way to the great change in Religion and Government intended, might be made more easie and passable: many of those who have shewed themselves faithfull to the cause of God and the Kingdom, either in Parliament or in the Country are put out of the Commission of peace, and other publike employments. The Sheriff of *Leicester* there labouring to keep the peace, when Master *Henry Hastings* marched from *Loughborough* in *Leicester* with about 200 Foot, and 100 Horse, of which, many were drawn out of *Darbyshire*, Armed in a warlike manner, with Pistolls, Pikes, and Muskets, their Drums beating, and Colours flying, intending to seize upon the Magazine of the County, was for his good service put out of his office; and Master *Hastings*, the person who committed this outrage made Sheriff in his place. Divers great Lords His Majesties Servants in places of neernesse and trust, Persons of high honour, merit, and abilities; as the Earls of *Pembroke*, *Essex*, *Holland*, and the Lord *Faulding* displaced, for no other cause but discharging their conscience in Parliament; besides, divers Members of the House of Commons, one of which, hath long served His Majestie in places of Honour, and had alwayes been in great favour and esteem, till he faithfully discharged his duty in Parliament. And last of all, The Earl of *Northumberland* put from the place of high Admirall, a man so eminent in all qualifications of honour and sufficiency, so necessary for the State of this time; when so many ships are at Sea, and the Kingdom in so much trouble and distraction, that there can hardly be named a more mischievous eff. of wicked Councell or dangerous preparative to future confusions, then the bereaving the State of the service of so noble and vertuous a Person as he is. The consideration whereof inforceth both Houses to declare, That they cannot think the Kingdom in safety, nor themselves to have discharged the trust which lyes upon them, till they have done their uttermost, by all fit wayes, to procure that office to be restored, whereby the Commander of the Ships which are the Walls of the Kingdom, may again be seated in the charge of that noble Lord,

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In the midst of these unjust and destructive courses to blinde the eyes of the multitude, and disguise their malicious and cruell intentions under the semblance of peace and Justice, they have drawn his Majesty to make divers solemn Protestations, with fearfull imprecations upon Himself, an invocations of Gods holy name, That He intended nothing but the peace and welfare of His people, the maintenance of Religion, and the Laws of the Kingdom, and for His own security only, to raise a guard for His Person. And that He did from His Soul abhor the thought of making Warre against the Parliament, or to put the Kingdom into a combustion; but having under this colour, kept about him, divers Souldiers and Officers, and gathered some strength, the intentions do now appear with a more open face, by these His Maiesties ensuing actions, and proceedings.

Which the Lords and Commons have thought good to publish, That all the Subjects of the Kingdom may understand, what dangers and miseries are coming upon them, if not timely prevented.

A Garrison of Souldiers is by His Maiesties Order put into *Newcastle*, under the Command of the Earl of *Newcastle*, who should have formerly seized upon *Hull*, if by the Wisdom of the Parliament he had not been prevented.

The papists in *Cheshire* have lately, in a very peremptory manner, and in His Maiesties Name, demanded their Arms, taken from them by direction of both Houses of Parliament, to be again restored to them. The Earl *Rivers*, lately a notorious protest papist, and still suspected to be a papist, although he now comes to Church, as many other dangerous papists do, on purpose, as is conceived, to make themselves capable of employment, is put into the Commission of Array, being against Law, and the Liberty of the Subject, which he hath executed with rigour, and hath committed divers persons to prison for refusing to submit thereunto, contrary to the Law, and the petition of Right.

The mouth of the River of *Tyne* is fortified, whereby the



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whole Trade of *Newcastle* for Cole or otherwise, will be subject to be interrupted whensoever His Majesty shall please, and the City of *London*, and many other parts of the Kingdom exceedingly burthened and distressed.

A Ship laden with Canon for Battery, and other lesser Ordnance, powder, and Ammunition is come into the River of *Humber*, which also hath brought divers Commanders from forraign parts; and in this ship, as we are credibly informed, were *Mr. Henry Wilmot*, *Sir John Barkley*, and *Sir Hugh Pollard*, three of those who stand charged in parliament, for being privy to the designe of bringing up the Army; and amongst others the Lord *Digby*, a person accused in parliament of high Treason, who when he began to be questioned, fled out of the Kingdom, and advised His Majesty by Letters to that course which he hath since pursued, of withdrawing himself from his parliament to a place of Strength, and that then he intended to come to him, and in the mean time would do him service abroad.

Divers other large preparations of Warlike provisions are made beyond the Sea, and shortly expected, besides great number of Gentlemen, Horses, and Arms drawn from all parts of the Kingdom, and all the Gentlemen in *Yorkshire* required to bring in their horses for his Majesties Service.

Sundry Commissions are granted for raising horse, and divers Officers of the Army are already appointed.

Upon Munday morning being the fourth of *July*, His Majesty came to *Beverley* with an Army of a considerable number of Horse and Foot, some Regiments of the Trained Bands, being likewise commanded to be raised.

Among the Souldiers in this Army, there are divers papists and other persons of desperate fortune, and condition, ready to execute any violence, rapine, and oppression.

Some Troops of Horse are sent into *Lincolnshire*, to the great terrour of the well-affected people, who are thereby forced either to forsake their dwellings, or to keep them with armed men.

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Provisions are restrained from coming to *Hull*, and his Majesty is shortly expected to come thither with his Army, notwithstanding the place is in the custody of the Parliament, as hath been often declared to his Majesty by both Houses, and kept by them for his Majesties service, and the peace of the Kingdom; whereof, as soon as they may be secured, they intend to leave the Town in the state it was.

The Warre being thus by his Majesty begun, the Lords and Commons in Parliament hold themselves bound in conscience to raise forces for the preservation of the peace of the Kingdom and protection of the Subjects in their persons and estates, according to Law, The defence and security of Parliament, and of all those who have been employed by them in any publique service for these ends, and thorow Gods blessing to disappoint the designs and expectations of those who have drawn his Majesty to these courses and counsels, in favour of the papists at home, the Rebels in *Ireland*, the forraign enemies of our Religion and peace.

In the opposing of all which, they desire the concurrence of the well-disposed Subjects of this Kingdom, and shall manifest by their courses and endeavours, that they are carried by no respects but of the publique good which they will alwayes preferre before their own lives and fortunes; And shall ever be most earnest in their counsels and endeavours to prevent a Civill War, and those miserable effects it must needs produce, if they may be avoyded without endangering the alteration of Religion; which is the main end of those who have been the Authors and Councellors of his Majesties undertaking this Warre, and will necessarily draw with it a losse of Liberty, and subversion of the Law of the Kingdom; so that it rests onely that the free-born English Nation do consider whether they will adhere to the King and his Parliament, by which they

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they have so long enjoyed all that is dear unto them; or to the King, seduced by Jesuiticall Councell and Cavaliers, who have designed all to slavery and confusiu, which by Gods blessing, and our joynt endeavours may be timely prevented.



*FINIS.*



